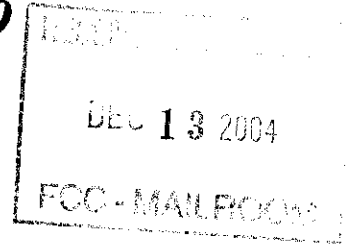


**EAST HARLEM PAYPHONES**  
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**NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10029**  
**212-288-4079**

DOCKET FILE COPY ~~DUPLICATE~~

*Original*



December 6, 2004

**EX PARTE COMMUNICATION**

Chairman Michael Powell  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, DC 20554

**RE: Access to Unbundled Network Elements,  
WC Docket No. 03-225**

Dear Chairman Powell,

I am writing to urge you, in taking action on the pending revision of the Unbundled Network Element (UNE) rules, to ensure that payphone companies like mine continue to have competitive alternatives for their local service needs.

East Harlem Payphones is a very small public payphone provider serving the needs of inner city Residents. EHP would have literally, *been out of business*, had it not had the opportunity to chose a competitive LEC offering reasonable basic rates several years ago.

On a day-to-day basis all payphone providers encounter new costs, fees and taxes that continually erode earnings. It may be the case that large corporations are able to pass these costs along to consumers or absorb them. I believe small companies are greatly impacted and feel that statistics will confirm this. I feel the data would show a great decline in public service providers nationally. Nationally the public, and especially those in need, will be affected by the loss of public telecommunications and of course in times of great emergency, i.e. power outages, this loss will be felt ten fold.

I pray that you hear this one small companies position of need for competitive local service alternatives in order to ensure reasonable basic service costs.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John Porter".

John Porter  
President

CC Dortch